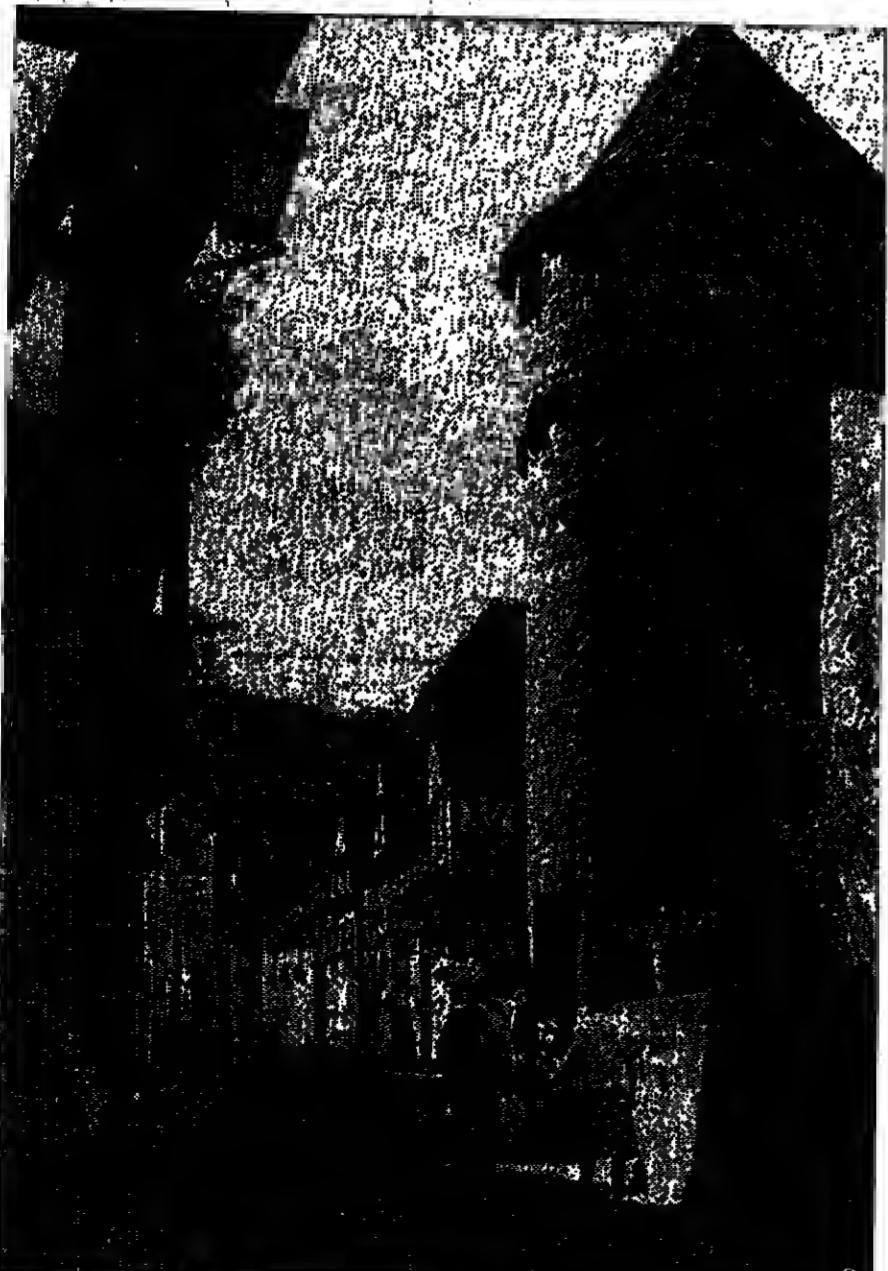


Routes to tour in Germany

The German Wine Route



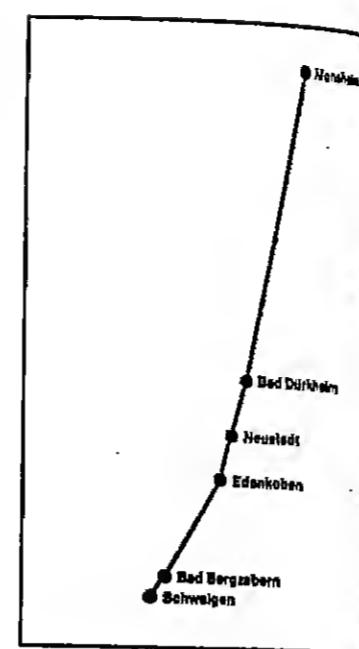
German roads will get you there — to the Palatinate woods, for instance, where 2,000 years ago Roman legionaries were already growing wine. Each vine yields up to three litres of various kinds of wine, such as Riesling, Sylvaner, Müller-Thurgau, Scheurebe or Gewürztraminer. Grapes are gathered in the autumn but the season never ends. Palatinate people are always ready to throw a party, and wine always holds a pride of place, generating

Gemütlichkeit and good cheer. As at the annual Bad Dürkheim Wurstmarkt, or sausage market, the Deldeshelm goat auction and the election of the German Wine Queen in Neustadt. Stay the night in wine-growing villages, taste the wines and become a connoisseur.

Visit Germany and let the Wine Route be your guide.

- 1 Grapes on the vine
- 2 Dorrenbach
- 3 St Martin
- 4 Deldeshelm
- 5 Wachenheim

DZT DEUTSCHE ZENTRALE
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Beethovenstrasse 69, D-6000 Frankfurt/M.



The German Tribune

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE GERMAN PRESS

C 20725 C
ISSN 0016-8858

Stern words of advice from Gromyko and Mitterrand

Twice in a week the Federal Republic of Germany has seen for itself difficulties that confront Bonn foreign policy.

The Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr Gromyko, spent three days in Bonn in a bid to renew the policy of balance and co-operation.

The Federal Republic is the country the Soviet Union still associates with when it suffered at German hands in the Second World War.

Mr Gromyko also outlined the alarming consequences that would ensue for Germans if the Federal Republic were to run counter to Soviet security interests.

In other words, he warned what would happen if Bonn were to carry out the missile modernisation part of the auto-resolution.

He was followed within less than 48 hours by President Mitterrand of France, a country that boasts intellectual and treaty ties with the Federal Republic that are the most cordial.

M. Mitterrand made it no less clear how dangerous for us, for Europe and for France it would be if Bonn were to

misunderstanding. Maybe the treaty did indeed end long-standing rivalry between France and Germany, as Chancellor Kohl said in Paris. But he was right to refer to differences of opinion that still remained.

Fundamental disparities are undeniably a keynote of Franco-German relations. The most important one is that France is a sovereign nuclear power, whereas the Federal Republic has solemnly undertaken neither to manufacture nor to own nuclear, biological or chemical weapons.

It must also have come as a shock to the French to hear leading German Social Democrats state in public that basically the British and French nuclear forces were negotiable in the US-Soviet talks in Geneva.

This is not exactly what was said. The arguments put forward by people such as Egon Bahr are more complicated but not lacking in political logic.

Including Soviet security interests they are, in a nutshell, that the Americans may not be strictly able to negotiate on the subject of the British and French nuclear potential, both being sovereign states, but that the potential is there nonetheless.

So it must be included in setting off Soviet missiles against Western missiles available in Europe.

This is an argument that is lacking in instinct, to say the least, and it would have been unlikely to be put forward by, say, Helmut Schmidt.

Herr Schmidt was long one-sidedly Anglo-American in his leanings, but intensive and cordial ties with M. Mitterrand's predecessor, M. Giscard d'Estaing, made him conscious of French sensitivities.

The French think in categories of grandeur and both act and feel in a much more European manner than the Germans when it comes to emancipation from US apron-strings.

Herr Schmidt well knew that he could only hope to take a more self-assured stand toward Washington and look after specifically German interests in total harmony with Paris, if at all. That was entirely in keeping with the philosophy of the treaty signed by Adenauer and de Gaulle 20 years ago. True, the Franco-German treaty may have sealed a reconciliation between the two countries that cannot be rated highly enough given centuries of hostility between them. But it is risky to use the term friendship in politics; it can lead to

...



A missile campaign?
(Cartoon: Ullmann / Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung)

ed to disarm and the West considering missile modernisation.

With a general election campaign momentum in Germany, security is a feature of party-political manifestos is bound to add an element of additional excitement.

Disregarding for a moment the day-to-day statements by the parties concerned, which tend to confuse matters more than to shed light on them, the first point to be made is that a zero option can be ruled out.

Second, the British and French missiles will not form part of the equation.

Third, it is the hundreds of Soviet SS-20 missiles that led to the Nato resolution in the first place and might make missile modernisation by the West indispensable.

Fourth, it must be said that the Soviet empire including its Eastern European satellites cannot be held together by the power of an idea but solely by military power.

Military pressure and superiority are indispensable, as so many bids for freedom in the East bloc have shown. So Western Europe cannot afford to be the weaker of the two.

Wolf Ullmann

(Kleiner Nachrichten, 24 January 1983)



Chancellor Kohl (left) and President Mitterrand of France after his Bundestag speech marking the 20th anniversary of the Franco-German friendship pact. (Photo: AP)

THE LAW

Hamburg police accused of ties with underworld

Blood and thunder has always been good for the reputation of Hamburg's underworld, but persistent allegations that the police and organised crime are hand in glove are less amusing.

After years of criticism Hamburg's police chief Günter Redding, 59, has resigned. He is felt to have been unsuccessful at cleaning up the force.

Towards the end of last year shootouts in the city's underworld reached alarming proportions, going a little too far even for the Reeperbahn and St Pauli.

At Ohlsdorf cemetery there were funerals of the mob in Chicago in Al Capone's heyday, the first being that of Michael Luchting, known as Michael the Devil.

A good-looking man, he may have been, doubtless besetting a St Pauli pimp, but not when he was found hanging from a tree in the Lüneburg Heath.

Michael was imprisoned by the Spanish police for 149 days accused of being a white-slave dealer, during which time his empire of prostitution on the Reeperbahn came apart at the seams.

He had been a leading member of GMBH, a gang of pimps (he was the letter M). At Ohlsdorf he was given a send-off in style, with a fine sermon, several thousand carnations and a Rolls Royce made of flowers.

A fortnight later it was Klaus Breitenthaler, a turn, "SS Klaus" and Jürgen "Angie" Becker, who killed in an Eros Center shootout, by other pimps.

The shooting was said to have been in connection with a prostitute.

Frank Schubert, known as Sachsen-Franky, ran a brothel and was one of the mourners at Michael Luchting's funeral. It was his turn next.

He was shot and dangerously injured by a prostitute at his home in Blankenese, a high-class residential suburb on the banks of the Elbe.

Doctors later testified that the prostitute showed signs of having been sexually battered herself.

These goings-on were reminiscent of the early days when the struggle for power in Hamburg's underworld was in full swing. The police would probably be happy if that were still the case.

Nowadays, however, shootouts are rare. Orgaised crime is said to have taken over, and the police are alleged not to have realised what was going on until it was far too late.

There are even allegations of close ties between leading police officers and the underworld, having prevented the force from effectively combating the trend.

Police chief Günter Redding, who is now on leave at his own request and has applied to be pensioned early, is not accused of contacts with the underworld.

He is said to have let things slide for too long. He was a fine administrator but is claimed not to have been ruthless enough in cleaning up the force.

That is not how he sees the situation. He once told *Hamburger Abendblatt*, the local evening paper, he would welcome the lion tamer's job.

But he doesn't seem to have tamed anyone, certainly not in the CID squad responsible for handling burglary cases, which was a law unto itself.

The distinctive methods of the burglary squad developed combined clearing up crime and dealing in stolen property in a manner that was decidedly illegal.

The basic idea was that the stolen goods were bought back, with next to no questions asked.

A number of police officers are said to have earned good money on the side in this dishonest brokerage. The police and the underworld seem to have dealt with each other on equal terms.

There has been persistent and much more serious allegations that leading Hamburg police officers worked hand in glove with underworld bosses.

The two names repeatedly mentioned are those of retired CID chief Hans Zölsdorf and Reeperbahn restaurateur Wilfried Schulz.

Schulz won a court order forbidding anyone to call him the Godfather of St Pauli. He is currently in custody on suspicion of having set up a criminal organisation.

Zölsdorf, who made a name for himself both in Germany and abroad as a specialist in fighting organised crime, is said to have had too close ties with Schulz.

There were even rumours of blackmail, rumours normally to have called it a day, but city police chiefs are thick-skinned. They have to be, and there are enough cases to prove the point.

While Dr Redding stayed on the job the Hamburg police still took its course of action, passing him by to all intents and purposes.

Home Affairs Senator Alfons Pawel-

Police officers who took part in the investigations disagree. One of them has told his tale to *Der Stern*, the illustrated weekly, which is serialising it.

He is now himself the subject of police probes, accused of using the illegal bugging devices that are alleged to have been used in the case.

It is striking that Zölsdorf himself is the officer in charge of investigations and a reputed specialist in organised crime said in 1979 there was no such thing as organised crime in Hamburg.

That was the year in which the FBI gave the Hamburg police the tip that there were links between the US underworld and the city's own world of crime.

A year later another special commission, consisting of CID officers and public prosecutors, came to a different conclusion.

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OUR WORLD

Teachers rap too much TV for kids

Three- to 13-year-olds spend twice to three times as much time watching television as they did only two years ago, says Uwe Franke of a teachers' union and Dortmund University professor Dieter Höltershinken.

They make this statistically unsubstantiated claim in a review of what they call the "media culture" to which children are increasingly exposed.

Massive exposure to television, they say, leads to serious developmental problems with children.

Uwe Franke: "Thousands of preschool children of working parents are already glued to the TV due to loneliness, fear and boredom."

New regulations for dealing with the underworld, contracts were mainly on the introduction of the police launched a fully-fledged TV programme and the growth of second TV sets in children's rooms.

According to Franke, viewing time

of a morning TV programme

is the flood of video films, frequently showing scenes of great brutality, have changed the children's viewing habits

led to a dramatic increase in the

amount of time spent watching TV.

This has led to more aggressiveness, emotional atrophy, growing speechlessness and cultural pauperisation."

Professor Höltershinken calls for an appropriate TV education, starting in kindergarten.

Such TV seen by children is done outside the broadcasting times, especially provided for them, he says. As a result, the children watch more adult than children's programmes.

More than 25 per cent of three- to 13-year-olds are "TV addicts," he says.

Childhood today means not only "TVhood" but a sweeping "mediahood" that is dominated by the Internet and produces a "children's culture" that stimulates constant media

basic rights by the force.

The Bremen group has bags of mail

pouring in to its Humboldtstrasse office.

parents and teachers entitled TV Education in Kindergarten.

He accuses the media of creating needs in children and exploiting these needs through clever advertising.

Professor Höltershinken applies the generic term "children's culture" to a wide range of products.

There is very little that is culturally sound provided for children in the form of films, children's theatre and visits to museums and similar institutions.

A conglomerate of media supplies the children around the clock. In fact, a uniform children's culture has evolved even in kindergarten in the form of a world of playing and learning toys, consumer goods and furnishings, all designed by experts and allegedly specially geared to children. Most of this stuff can be found in and ordered from a very small number of catalogues.

This "children's culture" ignores such basic childhood needs as exercise, indirect and palpable contact with nature and the environment. In general and lasting social ties.

Television in particular conveys values and behavioural patterns that are inconsistent with the children's experience of everyday reality with its natural conflicts.

The flood of applications for help

bears witness to the need for such an organisation.

As a result, the children regard the demands of their parents as being inconsistent with the standards conveyed to them by television.

Comments Professor Höltershinken: "This means that the children are faced with a 'conflict solution dilemma' at a most vulnerable phase of their development and that they don't know which standard should apply and how they should behave."

"Regardless of its response in a given situation, the individual child will always violate either the standards conveyed by television or those of its natural environment. This results in uncertainty and stunted development."

(Saarbrücker Zeitung, 6 January 1983)

Claimants' union calls for fair deal, less red tape



The fact is that Kusche was wheelchair-bound even before his road accident. But at least he still had one good arm that enabled him to handle a specially designed car. The accident robbed him of that arm, making him totally disabled and dependent on the help of others.

But the experts' opinions conflict with each other, especially as Kusche, a psychologist, was about to be appointed a university lecturer, a dream that was shattered along with his arm.

"We have discovered a niche in the market," says Ifus Chairman Matthias Kusche of Ludwigshafen somewhat ironically.

"We are suing the insurance company for damages amounting to hundreds of thousands of deutschemarks. The insurers are only prepared to pay a fraction of the claim."

This prompted him to launch his organisation in 1981 and become the champion of accident victims and social security recipients.

Ifus started not only a counselling service but also a mobile assistance service intended to familiarise lawyers, social workers, doctors and judges with the problems the disabled have to face.

The response has been overwhelming, especially among conscientious objectors doing nursing work in lieu of military service.

Kusche describes his cooperation with the Conscientious Objectors' Authority, acting as a placement agency, as smooth.

As he sees it, there is room for many more conscientious objectors in this line of social work in the broadest sense.

Ifus charges its clients DM5 an hour for brokerage services, though this barely covers costs and the fee is likely to be increased soon.

But none of this gets down to the actual root of the problem. What Kusche wants is to make the welfare department step in earlier and reduce the costs an accident victim has to bear.

If he gets his way, the expenses of an accident victim will be estimated at the beginning of a year and paid instantly instead of being reimbursed on presentation of receipts.

As things stand, the victim has to advance his expenses and then patiently wait for reimbursement.

Another Ifus objective is to increase the compulsory third party insurance cover for motorists to DM7.5m. His proposals are now being studied by the Bonn Justice Ministry.

Knut Teske

(Die Welt, 10 January 1983)

Bremen group monitors police force

are undeniably impressive, but they can hardly be said to be all part of the day's work for the average police officer.

The blurb on the book's dust jacket explains what the two authors had in mind: "It is an attempt to find out what goes on behind closed doors in the police force, both day and in large-scale campaigns."

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Continued from page 14

ice. There are letters from girls on mobile phones who were shouted at by police officers.

More seriously, there is the case of a man who has never had anything to do with the police and has suddenly found himself helpless to prevent them from searching his home.

There are also plans to set up an advisory council of public figures with relevant professional qualifications.

Gössner says the group will keep records and check claims and encourage critical police officers to rethink their objective role in the anonymous and all-powerful police apparatus and draw appropriate conclusions.

The Bremen group has bags of mail

pouring in to its Humboldtstrasse office.

(Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 30 December 1982)

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manufacturer's

EAST-WEST TIES

Both sides satisfied with visit

Andrei Gromyko left Bonn on 19 January feeling satisfied, as well he might. Hans-Dietrich Genscher, his West German opposite number, agreed that the Soviet Foreign Minister's visit had been necessary and useful.

Neither side might have changed its mind on crucial issues, but both had benefited from the encounter.

For Moscow the Federal Republic of Germany was the first Western country with which the new Kremlin leaders were able to to review relations and establish them on a working basis.

In Bonn Chancellor Kohl and his Foreign Minister were able to demonstrate that their CDU-led government is an opposite number the Soviet Union can and does take seriously.

Even though Mr Gromyko may well have been generous in his flattery of his German hosts the encounter was a tougher test of maturity for the new Bonn government than Herr Kohl's goodwill visit to Washington.

Ties between Bonn and Moscow, when viewed on their own, i.e. bilaterally, are only a minor aspect of world affairs but by no means one of no importance.

Both sides have a genuine interest in satisfactory cooperation as possible, partly because it has a stabilising effect in Europe politically and partly because it is anything but a one-sided bargain economically, especially in the context of long-term cooperation.

What is more, from Bonn's point of view, trouble-free ties with Moscow are the final arbiter of relations with other neighbours to the East, especially the GDR.

Like being so, Mr Gromyko's threatening visit prompted something of a renaissance of the 1970 Moscow treaty between the two countries.

Like Mr Andropov in his talks with Bonn Opposition leader Hans-Jochen Vogel in Moscow, Mr Gromyko in Bonn was untroubled in his praise of the value and development potential of the 1970 agreement.

It was, as he saw it, a timetable for profitable detente, and the Bonn government made no bones about its intention of continuing with *Ostpolitik* on the basis of the treaty.

Chancellor Kohl may have reservations on whether both sides mean the same by detente, but in the course of Mr Gromyko's visit the Christian Democrats adopted the Moscow treaty, as it were, after 12 years of reluctance.

The signals for cooperation are not on red for stop.

Both sides have also learnt useful lessons from the visit in respect of German-Soviet ties in the context of world affairs.

In the current state of East-West affairs, which is distinctly chilly, Bonn cannot afford to take up an intermediate position, let alone a broker's role.

Moscow appreciated this fact given the definite manner in which both government and Opposition in Bonn came to the defence of the United States.

At the same time Bonn must bear in mind that for the time being it will remain the Kremlin's first port of call in the Soviet bid to get out of the situation it has been in on account of Afghanistan and Poland.

This provides Bonn with opportunities of exerting influence on both sides that ought to be used, with due consideration for alliance requirements.

The two sides finally learnt from each other in respect of a matter of life or death for Europe, the installation or scrapping of medium-range nuclear missiles.

Mr Gromyko made a point of creating an impression of decided moderation by and large, which seemed to indicate that Moscow does not at present set any great store by propaganda campaigns against the West's missile modernisation option.

Government and Opposition in Bonn both stand by the December 1979 Nato missiles-and-talks resolution, although their respective emphases differ.

But the seriousness with which Moscow put its case ought to have convinced Bonn that Moscow is keen to break through the vicious circle of the arms race.

It is now up to the Americans to reply to the Soviet move in Geneva. At the time of writing Vice-President George Bush was expected in Bonn for consultations on this issue.

The Bonn government would hear nothing of Mr Gromyko's allegation that the United States was solely to blame for negotiations having ground to a halt in Geneva.

But despite the general election campaign the political parties in Bonn cannot afford to ignore the fact that they have had and continue to have a substantial say in the US negotiating position in Geneva.

The Bonn government would hear nothing of Mr Gromyko's allegation that the United States was solely to blame for negotiations having ground to a halt in Geneva.

Subject to this proviso argument may then be waged on the subject of or without a general election to make a campaign issue.

In an uncontrolled sector below the strategic level the Soviet Union had set about building missiles designed for use over intermediate distances of up to 5,000km, or 3,000 miles.

In 1979 Nato at Bonn's wish resolved to station new US missiles in Europe from the end of 1983 unless agreement was negotiated on a reduction in the number of Soviet missiles deployed that were capable of reaching targets in Western Europe.

Yet one may also feel it is all very well for M. Mitterrand to talk and give advice. He had not just hosted Mr Gromyko.

Hans Schmitz (Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 22 January 1983)

Continued from page 1

The Federal Republic's unparalleled rise to economic power has at no point in time offset this difference. Without the nuclear safeguards provided by its allies Bonn would have been helplessly liable to blackmail of any kind.

The hand of friendship held out by General de Gaulle nonetheless at no time went so far as to allow the Germans a share, let alone a say, in France's nuclear *force de frappe*.

There is no declaration to the effect that Germany enjoys protection beneath the French nuclear shield.

Not for nothing did President Mitterrand leave unanswered in his Bonn interview for German TV the question when and to what effect France's tactical nuclear weapons were to be used that could not be fired beyond the territory of the Federal Republic.

General de Gaulle shared with not a few Germans doubts whether the United States in the event of a Soviet attack on Europe would resort to a nuclear re-

Hans Schmitz (Kölner Stadt-Anzeiger, 22 January 1983)

Bonn sizes up situation in Mr Gromyko's wake

GENERAL ELECTION

Christian Democrats falter after promising start

On his seventh visit to Bonn Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko left behind a twofold wish:

• In Geneva, where pressure of time was mounting, progress was gradually expected at the US-Soviet disarmament talks.

• In Germany the political parties ought to try and conduct the debate in a more objective manner and steer clear of missiles as a major campaign issue.

As a campaign issue the topic would make it more, not less, difficult to take a thorough look at ways of redressing the military balance in Europe.

In the wake of Mr Gromyko's visit the political parties in Bonn still have points in common.

Everyone realises that at the end of this year Nato must, by the terms of its 1979 resolution, go ahead with missile modernisation if the Soviet Union fails to meet the West halfway in reducing its superiority.

Everyone also knows that there is little likelihood of agreement being reached in Geneva on what in Bonn is still officially termed the specific ideal solution.

This solution is the zero option by which both sides would agree to dismantle with medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

It may also be noted, without pointing an accusing finger at Moscow in any way, that Mr Gromyko had nothing new to say in Bonn.

At present the Soviet Union insists on the proposal it submitted in Geneva last November, a proposal to 'reduce in number its SS-20 missile systems.'

This amounts to an admission that the SS-20 and the threat it has come to symbolise has indeed given Moscow the edge over the West, which it long deserved.

Chancellor Kohl gave rise to the suspicion of a speech he made in New York. He should put an end to this right without delay.

There can be no vote on terms that have yet to be negotiated.

Conversely, the CDU accuse SPD of wanting a mandate for its campaign of dismantling US missiles. The one

The first part of the programme has been implemented, no matter what the people might think of the justice of individual decisions.

The budget has been made to fit economic conditions and massive investment promotion in private housing will finally help the construction industry.

But then, in the midst of its election campaign, the CDU decided to change course with all signs of panic.

This is evidenced by the conservative campaign demand that what was originally intended as a compulsory contribution to the government by the higher income brackets is now not to be retained.

This about-face detracts from the government's credibility. After all, the majority of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group bitterly fought the demand when it was raised by the SPD.

But the objective of distributing the load more equitably by imposing a repayable surtax on high earners has still not been achieved.

The latest CDU/CSU demand is no more than a declaration of intent and is odds with the government's actions.

The election platform promises much that will eventually come in the future. The business community will be given tax relief totalling several billion deutschmarks; the working population is to have a share in industrial capital; and families are to be given tax relief.

Income tax is to be lowered across the board once the economy is back on its feet and inflation is under control.

It was taken for granted until recently that the consolidation of the budget was to provide food and consumer goods.

But nothing is now being said about Labour Minister Norbert Blüm not

the United States, then hit on a zero option must be negotiated.

The tendency towards such a solution has been swayed by the burden of government, the CDU and CSU are swayed in the stiff breeze of the election campaign. Now they reject what they voted only a short while ago.

After years of calling for ratification of the INF treaty to be made more flexible, they now associate themselves with the demand that all balls down to is blocking instead of political vices.

The start of the early days has worn off, and the election that was to have marked a fresh start seems to have turned into a nightmare for the conservatives.

They started off wanting to do the right thing. Now, all the CDU and CSU is to be successful, and, who knows, it might be this that could jeopardise their election victory.

The CDU/CSU/FDP coalition argued that it was necessary to bring about a total renunciation of medium-range missiles for the good of the nation. The maxim was that a determined leader was needed to check the skyrocketing deficit, cut back on consumer spending and promote industrial investment.

The idea was right and the timetable

To start with, the new government wanted to carry out necessary repairs and bring about a realistic budget. This is to be followed after the election by a clean sweep of an allegedly ailing society.

The new figures include all numbers, but not zero.

Alongside complicated equations next to no-one can check, some simplifications are also made.

The SPD has accused the CDU of instance, of wanting to be given a date to deploy new missiles in March.

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too long ago stated that the social security pension fund would find itself unable to pay the pensions from its own resources as of next year.

A sweeping reform of the pensions system makes it mandatory for the citizen to do without some of the benefits he has been accustomed to.

But now of this has entered the platform, and the conservatives now have to pay for having assumed government without several options to fall back on.

Their quiver is empty, and their original will to replenish it for the campaign in a bid to get the voters' mandate for a clear-cut policy is flagging.

Their hope that the very fact of their being in government would bring about a change for the better did not stand up to economic realities.

Though the overall conditions for an economic upturn have greatly improved (interest rates are down, the current account is balanced and tax relief has been enacted) there are still no signs of a turn for the better — except in the eyes of the CDU/CSU campaigners.

It is hard to convince the public by pointing to specific facts that the sacrifices imposed on it were not only just but that the first fruits are already in evidence.

Seen in this light, it is not surprising that the government is despondent.

In Ancient Greece, the bearer of bad news had to fear for his life. All that is at stake today is an election victory.

Paradoxically, the closer the election date the less do the political parties trust in the common sense of the voter. Yet they bank on being elected despite their wishy-washy platforms.

Wolfgang Mauersberg (Hannoversche Allgemeine, 19 January 1983)

CDU says what it stands for

The CDU campaign platform has been structured to tally with the party's decision to put the emphasis on economic issues.

Security policy, *Deutschlandpolitik*, European policy and development aid have been relegated to second place.

As to development policy, the CDU stresses that the aid criterion is not only the neediness of the recipient country but also the policy pursued by that country.

Development aid's function is seen as providing help towards self-help. In re-reading such assistance the country concerned must recognise the legitimate economic and political interests of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The CDU says it is not prepared to support regimes that use their meagre monetary resources to buy arms. In some cases, from the Warsaw Pact nations, while expecting West Germany to provide food and consumer goods.

"Western security interests are not the only criterion for our development aid policy. But nobody can ask us to act against our vital interests or to promote

The political climate in this country has changed in the past few years, and there is now no party that does not attribute considerable importance to environmental protection.

There is also no party that has not become more sensitive and flexible on such issues as arms and peace.

By bringing about this change the Greens have altered the political landscape, a success that cannot be counted in votes.

Internally, representatives of the Hesse Greens have even gone so far as

OKOLOGISCH-SOZIAL-BASISGRUPPE DER WÄHLER

Die Grünen

Greens in conference at Sindelfingen, near Stuttgart

(Photo: Sven Simon)

Many Green supporters may vote SPD instead

The Greens sense that that state's SPD is not only pursuing a sound policy but that the Greens have actually no alternative of their own to offer.

Barred to the Opposition benches

and relieved of government responsibility, the SPD under Hans-Jochen Vogel is exerting a considerable attraction on potential Green voters, if the latest polls are any guide.

They can only do if they formulate their long-term programmes in a way that will give them enough scope for compromise in day-to-day parliamentary work.

In any event, it is now by no means certain that the Greens will actually move into the next Bundestag. They themselves now no longer rule out the possibility of a future two-party government.

But even should they triumph on 6 March, euphoria is unlikely to last.

The dobbets at their party congress in Sindelfingen have once more confirmed that the Greens have more time, time to clarify their attitude towards power and social realities.

Granted, they have clearly matured despite their economic platform and the course they have charted to utopia.

Despite their grass roots

■ DATA ABUSE

Security forces said to be too keen on video and computer snooping

The Hamburg news magazine *Der Spiegel* says police and security forces are increasingly using video cameras and keeping countless random facts and faces on computer file.

Data protection authorities are worried about the spread and possible official abuse of this form of computer snooping.

But there seems to be little likelihood of such Orwellian techniques being abandoned. There are cases in which they might fairly be said to serve a useful purpose.

Two years ago, just before the unsuccessful Red Army Faction terrorist attack on US General Frederick J. Kroesen, members of the Federal Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BKA), Wiesbaden, along with men of the Federal Intelligence Agency (BND) installed sophisticated video cameras in strategic spots around the general's Heidelberg home.

The cameras were hidden in street lamps, bird feeders and the casings of a roadside device installed to photograph traffic offenders. The cameras and their recorders enabled the BKA men to monitor all comings and goings around the general's home.

They were technically so up to date as to have provided clear enough pictures to identify passers-by even at a great distance. They also made it possible to clearly read the licence plates of passing cars.

The snooping action, recently disclosed by the Hamburg news magazine *Der Spiegel*, has been confirmed by the BKA.

A BKA spokesman told *Stuttgarter Zeitung* that the pictures taken by the cameras were compared with photographs of suspected terrorists on file at the BKA.

He said that the persons concerned were further investigated only if the video shots showed a certain similarity with suspected terrorists...

The investigation was then continued until the person concerned was fully cleared of suspicion.

According to *Der Spiegel*, more than 200 people who happened to have been near General Kroesen's home at the time were screened by the police.

The BKA confirmed that the car licences recorded by the cameras were checked against the register of stolen cars.

The Criminal Investigation Bureau said that although the BND's function is restricted to gathering information abroad, help received from the agency was legally above board and covered by the Mutual Assistance Act for law enforcement agencies.

The watch, said to have cost about DM 100, did not prevent the attack on General Kroesen because it was staged outside the area under surveillance.

Similar operations were at that time in progress in Patrick Henry Village, a residential area for members of the US armed forces where several endangered generals live, and around the Mann-

heim residence of British Major-General Michael F. Reynolds.

The BKA spokesman said that none of these actions could be described as a sweeping and continuous video surveillance. He said that this was neither technically feasible nor legally permissible.

He stressed that such actions are permissible only in cases where a person's life was in imminent danger. Given such a risk, the spokesman said, the BKA would not hesitate to mount a similar action today.

But this imminent danger, which actually applied in these cases, can hardly be said to have existed in the case of two other surveillance drives with hidden video cameras, both of which have been confirmed by the BKA.

In 1981, this agency installed cameras in the busy concourse underneath Frankfurt's main railway station. The cameras were aimed at a news stand to photograph buyers of newspapers.

As in the previous cases, the shots were later compared with photographs of suspects on file with the BKA.

The idea in this case was to film people behaving conspicuously and anything out of the ordinary. This was

based on the assumption that terrorists who have just mounted an attack would be trying to get as many national newspapers as possible to get on board of press reaction.

In other words, anybody buying several newspapers was instantly suspect.

The other instance concerns video cameras mounted at Frankfurt's main post office to monitor postmen-by who dropped letters into the box. In this case, the sleuths wanted to catch terrorists posting letters to claim credit for their raids.

The BKA spokesman conceded that his agency did not know which terror organisation would mount what attack against which installation. He said that this was a precautionary measure.

The 1981 monitoring actions spanned a period of about six months, though not simultaneously.

The spokesman said that there had also been other monitoring drives not disclosed by *Der Spiegel*.

Hans Peter Bull, the federal commissioner for protection against data abuse, has announced that he will be putting some questions to the BKA following the *Spiegel* disclosures.

Ombudsman accuses state of breaches of privacy

Ruth Leuze, Baden-Württemberg's commissioner for protection from data abuse, has levelled severe invasion of privacy charges against the state government and its legislature.

The government of Prime Minister Lothar Späth and the CDU majority in the state assembly, Frau Leuze says, in her latest report, have watered down the provisions against data abuse more than the Federal and any other state governments.

A second amendment to the Act Governing Protection Against Data Abuse now before the Baden-Württemberg state assembly aims to exempt science and research from the provisions of the Act.

The commissioner says in her report that she has been barred from access to much of the data stored by the police because this information has been labelled for internal use only.

This would strip the citizen of basic privacy rights and would release the medical and legal professions from their secrecy obligation.

The BKA confirmed that the car licences recorded by the cameras were checked against the register of stolen cars.

The commissioner also calls on the government to rescind last year's decision to curtail control possibilities for data stored by the police, thus once more providing safeguards against data abuse that are worthy of this name.

As things stand now, protection against invasion of privacy is in great jeopardy in Baden-Württemberg, the report says.

The commissioner also criticises the State Office for the Protection of the Constitution for its unique practice of keeping a record of citizens making use of their right of access to their own data if they do so more than twice.

The state's Interior Ministry argues that this is necessary to prevent people gathering information on the Office's methods of data collection.

end of retroactively legalising the passing on of privileged data to research institutions.

Commissioner Leuze, appointed three years ago by Prime Minister Späth, is particularly worried about the watering down of the secrecy code in the medical and legal professions.

The first amendment of the Act in June 1982 has greatly facilitated the exchange of data between government authorities and the police, to the detriment of the citizen's privacy rights.

The commissioner says in her report that she has been barred from access to much of the data stored by the police because this information has been labelled for internal use only.

This made it impossible for her to establish whether the police were responsible for the fact that an illustrated magazine was able to publish the names and photographs of drug addicts.

She was also unable to say whether a young man who was dismissed from his job on the grounds that he was a suspected Communist also owes this to the illegal passing on of police information.

She says this type of curtailment of control possibilities, which is non-existent in other states, could hardly be in the best interests of the police.

The commissioner also criticises the State Office for the Protection of the Constitution for its unique practice of keeping a record of citizens making use of their right of access to their own data if they do so more than twice.

The state's Interior Ministry argues that this is necessary to prevent people gathering information on the Office's methods of data collection.

He went to establish to what information gained from monitoring is stored in the BKA banks.

Bull was aware even before his disclosures that such drives existed. The real problem is concerned lies in the fact that data banks contain information on people who are not under suspicion. This information is stored for years without informing the concerned.

In fact, data frequently remain longer than a year and there is a tendency to use methods to fight terrorism in connection with crimes as well.

'Frightening prospect'

The commissioner terms the possibility of a sweeping video monitoring campaign frightening. This relates to other *Spiegel* disclosure that numerous records in major German cities were used every opportunity of putting up for his own purpose.

Once it had served its purpose from a point of view he determinedly cast it aside.

It was he who persuaded the reluctant Berlin mayor, Willy Brandt, to join the 1966-69 Grand Coalition of Christians and Social Democrats in Bonn as Foreign Minister.

As in the previous cases, the shots were later compared with photographs of suspects on file with the BKA.

The idea in this case was to film people behaving conspicuously and anything out of the ordinary. This was

based on the assumption that this practice of necessity deter citizens from the disclosure of their data.

She also criticises banks for their long-established practice of offering financial incentives to schools to join the Bundestag since it came into being in 1949. It has been a leading figure in post-war German politics, and was, he, Helmut Schmidt, who unreservedly set about ousting Herr Brandt.

Brandt is said since this period to have sworn he would survive both Wehrner and Schmidt politically. Now Wehrner has stepped down and will not be standing for re-election to the Bundestag in March. Brandt has achieved his ambition (always assuming it was not ascribed to him).

She charges some banks with not having students to pass on the address to those.

Throughout his parliamentary life he has been largely responsible for ensuring that Helmut Schmidt took over as Chancellor. It was one of Wehrner's last major policy decisions.

But he remained a linchpin of the Social and Free Democratic coalition. Due in part to longstanding close personal ties with the FDP's Wolfgang Mischnick, he managed to ensure that the SPD and the FDP steered clear of any clash until 1980.

From the mid-1970s he was increasingly troubled by age, sickness and increasing impatience. There were growing complaints from the SPD parliamentary group about Herr Wehrner's "regime of terror."

His authoritarian leadership, aimed at nipping all opposition in the bud, upset many a talented youngster who had initially felt nothing but admiration for the SPD floor leader.

The report also points to the fact that he was of all people, an ex-Communist whose past was called to mind whenever it suited his political opponents to do so.

Wehrner himself once framed his bit of realism as follows:

"I have made two mistakes in my life, political mistakes, that is, and I am learning from them."

The first was in becoming a Communist and the second, once I was no longer either able or willing to remain a Communist, in assuming you could still be a political part in the community."

You can't. You have to 'make ends meet for the rest of your life.'

Yet he even went on to become a Cabinet Minister. He had the all-German portfolio in the Grand Coalition government led by Chancellor Kiesinger.

The pennant of office will have interested him least. He could have exerted influence elsewhere. The wellspring that motivated him will have been his desire to sue for peace with the new German state by swearing the Minister's oath of allegiance to the constitution.

He engineered this coalition with the Christian Democrats for tactical rea-

sons. His aim was to show the public that the Social Democrats were capable of governing the country.

His tactics were vindicated three years later when the Social Democrats under Willy Brandt were able to form a coalition of their own with Walter Scheel's Free Democrats as junior partners.

Herbert Wehrner was not in favour of this change at the time. He felt the Social Democrats needed more time to gain maturity in joint harness with the Christian Democrats.

At a more personal level he may arguably not have trusted the peace he had made with the state and the state with him.

But Willy Brandt took the opportunity and Herbert Wehrner submitted. The years that followed, 1969 to 1972, were to be his best as SPD leader in the Bundestag.

It was a period when he was instrumental in ensuring that a government with a wafer-thin majority passed major items of *Ostpolitik* legislation.

Chancellor Brandt was returned to power with a triumphant majority in 1972, but it was not long before he began to lose control.

Herbert Wehrner's hour began; he was largely responsible for ensuring that Helmut Schmidt took over as Chancellor. It was one of Wehrner's last major policy decisions.

But he remained a linchpin of the Social and Free Democratic coalition. Due in part to longstanding close personal ties with the FDP's Wolfgang Mischnick, he managed to ensure that the SPD and the FDP steered clear of any clash until 1980.

He is renowned for sitting out every parliamentary debate from beginning to end; it is typical of the merciless discipline he insists on both from himself and from others.

He is known for not taking sides in the mid-1970s he was increasingly troubled by age, sickness and increasing impatience. There were growing complaints from the SPD parliamentary group about Herr Wehrner's "regime of terror."

His authoritarian leadership, aimed at nipping all opposition in the bud, upset many a talented youngster who had initially felt nothing but admiration for the SPD floor leader.

Then there were an increasing number of instances of mismanagement, especially as he was very much on his

own after the departure from the Bundestag under a cloud of his long-standing personal aide Kofi Wienand.

Since the end of the 1970s Herbert Wehrner's days as the power behind the throne in the SPD have been felt to be numbered.

Whether Wehrner in his exercise of power was a respecter of political monuments. While he respected historic buildings, without bending his knee to be used every opportunity of putting

it to his own purpose.

At a more personal level he may arguably not have trusted the peace he had made with the state and the state with him.

But Willy Brandt took the opportunity and Herbert Wehrner submitted. The years that followed, 1969 to 1972, were to be his best as SPD leader in the Bundestag.

Schmidt and Wehrner; a note of farewell

(Photo: Sven Simon)

cel support for a Chancellor Vogel. He would particularly ill-suited for this role if Hans-Joachim Vogel had to rely on the Greens, or environmentalists, in the Bundestag.

In deciding to call it a day he followed in Helmut Schmidt's footsteps, Herr Schmidt likewise having sensed that his days were over.

Both may be assumed not to have forfeited their desire for power; they will merely have bowed to social change and to changes in power politics.

The issues of the 1980s must be faced by a new generation of Social Democrats although Willy Brandt, the last of a trio of SPD leaders, is still in office to organise the transition.

Wehrner's departure will be a sad loss to the Bundestag. He is one of a declining band of personalities whose lives and experience establish traditions every parliament needs.

Bundestag debates may now be less vitriolic. Smooth talk may now replace his forthright and cutting, but often very telling style.

But his passion and his temperament, which delighted many and floored others, were indispensable in debates that were later said to have been highlights of parliamentarianism.

Joachim Worthmann
(Stuttgarter Zeitung, 13 January 1983)

CDU says what it stands for

Continued from page 3

nationalities that are hostile to us," the CDU says.

The platform also deals with *Deutschlandpolitik* at length, reasserting a policy aimed at continuity, freedom and unity.

The German problem must not be kept open theoretically only. Instead, it calls for active action on behalf of justice and unity.

The CDU also avows that it will meet all commitments resulting from the intra-German treaties, expecting the GDR to do the same.

The aim is to perpetuate German nationality, to have a common German citizenship and to remove the border dividing the nation, but to do so by peaceful means.

The situation will not be normal until self-determination, and general rights and freedoms apply to all Germans.

As a result, the CDU will continue to work towards peace in Europe, a peace in which the German people can regain their unity in freedom.

"Our fatherland remains the whole of

moral right to defend peace and basic liberties against this threat."

The CDU has adopted a policy of friendship and partnership with the allies and correct and peaceful cooperation with the neighbours in the East."

But peaceful neighbourliness as called for by the CDU can never mean acceptance of the injustice that lies in the denial of the right to national self-determination and individual freedom.

The platform asserts disarmament as the CDU's aim, describing the two-track Nato decision as a timetable for disarmament.

An election victory by the CDU would have a major impact on the success of the Geneva disarmament talks because only a stable government under CDU leadership would thwart the Soviet Union's intention to have its arms supremacy recognised as a *fait accompli*.

(Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung für Deutschland, 15 January 1983)

Since human attitudes and responses are, fortunately, unpredictable, economic forecasting will always be a guessing game; and as the forecasts of the past few years have been wrong by and large, the latest crop for the new year has been particularly cautious.

A detached look at 1983 that takes into account the general mood of uncertainty suggests that the recession will continue and unemployment worsen.

GNP, adjusted for inflation, is likely to decline even more than last year when it was down 1.2 per cent. This year's drop is likely to be 1.5 per cent, largely due to a 2.8 per cent drop in industrial output.

With GNP having already dropped slightly in 1981 (0.2 per cent), Germany is thus entering its third recession year in a row. This has increased the danger that the downturn could develop into an out-and-out crisis.

Like a year ago, when the SPD-FDP coalition anticipated that the second half of the year would show improvement, a pretty unstrategic hope, today's officialdom in Bonn again foresees an improvement in the second half of 1983.

At that time, the hopes were pinned primarily on exports. But the present centre-right government does not even have that hope to fall back on: exports have been falling markedly since last spring.

The recession that has beset the most important of industrial customer countries and the insolvencies of some East Bloc and developing nations have forced them to cut back on their capital goods orders.

This has hit the most important sector of Germany's export industry whose foreign sales declined by 27 per cent in November.

Growth in domestic business (20 per cent) was not enough to make up for this, especially since it was largely accounted for by one mammoth order. All in all, orders have dropped six per cent. Though business in the construction industry has picked up a bit due to lower interest rates and other impulses promoting housing construction and there is a likelihood of further improvement in this important sector, there is little inclination to invest.

Investments generally are being retarded by the 6 March national election, but the most important factors here are unsatisfactory sales, high costs and insolvencies: 15,500 firms went out of business in 1982, 4,000 more than in the previous year.

To make matters worse, the business community is sitting on ample stocks and manufacturing industry is working at only 75 per cent of capacity.

Investment subsidies are not enough to offset these negative factors, and companies like BMW, which is building new production facilities in Berlin and in Regensburg, are the exception rather than the rule.

BMW and Daimler-Benz have shown that success lies in the product, even in a conventional market.

But the imagination of auto makers has been foisted on them from outside through the price policies of the Opec nations.

Yet German auto makers have responded to the changed conditions while their American opposite numbers have not.

The lesson to be drawn from this is that there is a niche even in saturated markets, but only for those who act.

Idle production capacities will not prompt anybody to put money into expansion, and only expansion creates

ECONOMY

Inflation down, but so is so much else

jobs. Investments that are made go into inflation, which is a job-killer.

This plus the likelihood of a continued recession is anything but promising for the job market.

Every percentage point by which GNP drops does away with more than 100,000 jobs. As a result, we can expect 2.5 million jobless this year, meaning an unemployment rate of 12 per cent (against 9.1 per cent last December).

The rise in unemployment will primarily be due to demographic reasons because more young people are joining the work force and more and more foreigners and women are seeking employment.

The number of available jobs has not increased since 1978 when it was 22.3 million.

Demand is unlikely to provide any new impulses. In fact, consumption is likely to go down by 1.75 per cent (adjusted for inflation).

But this will be due to inadequacies on the supply side rather than lack of buying power.

The thinning-out process among Germany's 400,000 retailers is likely to continue at a steeper rate.

Even the four major department stores have been hit by declining sales, although Christmas business was about the same as the year before.

The winter sales were unlikely to provide much of a boost because prices were slashed immediately after Christmas.

Even the optimists among the forecasters now expect private consumption to go down by one per cent this year, largely due to moderate wage deals likely to result in pay increases of only three to four per cent and the added strain of the VAT increase as of 1 July 1983.

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■ PARTNERSHIP

Twentieth anniversary of Franco-German pact

The Franco-German friendship treaty was signed in Paris 20 years ago. Gerhard Schröder, who was Foreign Minister at the time and signed for Bonn, here recalls the situation and reviews the treaty's progress.

The 22 January 1963 treaty between Germany and France was one of the most hotly debated documents in post-war German politics.

None of the many items of legislation passed by the Bundestag in the field of foreign affairs can compare with it in baying the following said about it by the Speaker:

"Passed by a very substantial majority against one dissenting vote on the right, several on the left and a number of abstentions."

Let us try and account for this state of affairs.

Since 1945, or certainly 1949, Germany has aimed at European integration and relied for its security on the United States.

It was motivated by the objective of an integrated United Europe envisaged as growing progressively more united. The European Treaties were initially signed by six countries: France, Germany, Italy and Benelux.

The bid to set up an integrated European Defence Community, one in which Germany invested much hard work and by which it set great store, proved a failure.

It was rejected by the French National Assembly in 1954. We in Bonn, first and foremost Chancellor Adenauer, saw this failure as a most serious setback in the work of building a United Europe.

We, especially Theo Blank and his staff, had worked hard on what was a bold project, feeling that if a defence community was possible it might well be followed by a political union.

Our expectations probably went beyond political views and feelings in Europe at the time, but it was not long before Germany became a member of Nato.

That made it a member of the major pact which has guaranteed its security over all these years and will, I feel, continue to do so.

Twenty years after the signing of the Franco-German treaty people are wondering how important it has been.

Has it furthered the cause of European integration? What did it set out to do? What has it been able to accomplish? What good does it do now? What course will it take in future?

The first point, I feel, must be to recall the men mainly concerned, and on the German side it was Adenauer.

For him the treaty set a seal to his work for Franco-German reconciliation and friendship, especially as he knew he was due to step down as Bonn Chancellor later that year.

He had reluctantly agreed in this, his fourth term as Chancellor, to take his bow in mid-term and hand over to Ludwig Erhard.

The pact with France was for Adenauer the crowning achievement of a lifetime in politics; an achievement he would be able to hand over to his successor.

He doubtless felt he would be able to help ensure it was kept running smoothly.

ly soon after he had resigned as Chancellor. He spared no effort to ensure that it was.

It is hardly for me to speculate on the ideas that motivated General de Gaulle. A few months earlier he had made a well-prepared tour of Germany on which he had encountered much sympathy and admiration.

He himself had not been sparing with his compliments to the Germans on a tour marked by successful speeches and visits to Bonn, Düsseldorf, Duisburg, Hamburg and Ludwigsburg.

De Gaulle may be assumed to have been convinced the treaty would both strengthen his position in France and endorse his claim to be viewed internationally as the legitimate leader of Europe.

It is wrong to assume there was any intention of a change of direction in German foreign policy, the preamble listed targets that included the following:

- Implementation of the right of self-determination for the German people and restoration of German unity.

- Joint defence within the framework of the North Atlantic alliance and integration of the armed forces of member-countries.

- European integration along lines laid down by the establishment of the European Communities but including Britain and other would-be new members and with due regard for further consolidation of the communities.

These had been the yardsticks of German foreign policy up till then and they were to remain so.

The insertion of a preamble was evidently in keeping with what Konrad Adenauer had in mind.

He immediately and as a matter of course accepted the Act as prefaced by the preamble going into detail on the government draft.

There was no such move by the French government, and General de Gaulle was most critical of the preamble, although I cannot recall when he first voiced this criticism.

To this day the relevant section of the treaty reads:

"In the arms sector the two governments will endeavour to organise joint efforts from the stage of drafting suitable armaments projects and preparing financial planning."

There has been no lack of attempts to do so, but 20 years later I am still constantly reminded of the task story.

We naturally do cooperate a great deal, and successfully, in the arms sector, but in exporting the outcome we have restricted ourselves to Nato, whereas France is not encumbered by such restrictions.

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liation and friendship was not at issue; neither was controversial in the least.

The point at issue was, in a nutshell, whether the treaty could be reconciled with other European agreements. Would it be to the advantage or to the detriment of European developments?

In its debate on the treaty the Bundestag, or upper house of the Bonn parliament, decided on a resolution outlining its views on how the treaty was to be read and implemented.

The Bundestag and its committees felt a preamble was better. A preamble could ensure that the previous German policy, that European decisions and that Atlantic policy, which was mainly security policy, did not get out of control.

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RESEARCH

Antarctic eco-system endangered as scientists move in

From Ushuaia, Argentina, and Punta Arenas, Chile, ships set sail on 20 January, on a de luxe tourist cruise of the Antarctic.

The two ships were described in the brochures as something special, not to carry as many passengers as possible from one port to another but to take a small group of passengers to the holiday dreams of their own.

The *World Discoverer*, owned by a Hamburg company, de Vries, and the *Explorer*, owned by an American line, are specially equipped for ranges of discovery to previously inaccessible parts of the world.

On board the two floating expedition-cum-hotels ships about 250 self-heeled holidaymakers, mostly Americans but also Germans, have booked a month's tour of the Antarctic.

They are following in the footsteps of Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen, who first reached the South Pole in 1911.

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They relay manpower and supplies to Antarctic research stations manned by a variety of countries, including hundreds of scientists in a wide range of disciplines.

Tourists, even though they may be keen nature-lovers, are more of a nuisance because, for instance, even by coming anywhere near a scientific recording device they can produce data that seriously distort the micro-climate, scientists say.

"Despite marked ecological considerations shown by most scientific and tourist expeditions," says Gottthilf Hempel, "this growing activity endangers the Antarctic community."

■ ENVIRONMENT

Dentists help to recycle waste mercury

Frankfurter
Neue Presse

Every dentist in Hesse pours down the drain or into the dustbin an average 2.4kg of amalgam filling waste per year. There are 2,000 dental practices in the state, so the annual total is about 4.8 tonnes.

Roughly half, or about 2.4 tonnes, is mercury that pollutes rivers and streams and helps to ensure that sewage sludge cannot be recycled and has to be specially disposed of.

A two-year pilot project launched by the Hesse Environmental Affairs Ministry in March 1982 is nearing the halfway mark and an interim survey has been published.

It has been drawn up by the firm in Runkel-Dehr, near Limburg, that was entrusted by the Ministry with installing mercury filtration equipment in 100 dental practices.

The project was backed by the dental profession.

Mercury is contained mainly in amalgam used in fillings, and the waste is either poured down the drain or, in the case of fillings in teeth extracted, thrown into the dustbin.

But most dentists were reluctant to cooperate. Of 500 in Limburg, Darmstadt, Wiesbaden and Kassel only 29 agreed to take part in the project.

Many of them withdrew from the scheme on learning that the state government was not subsidising it. Equipment rental and maintenance costs DM60 a month, with mercury recovered being offset against the rental.

Mercury has been identified at almost all sewage farms in Hesse, but no one has yet been able to identify its source. Dentists clearly account for much of it.

Two tonnes a year would not be fed into the sewage system if only Hesse dentists were to collect amalgam waste instead of junking it.

A year ago the Ministry suggested that dentists might be to blame for roughly half the mercury fed to the state's sewage system.

The dental council doubted this was so but said the joint pilot project was all the more important as a means of checking the true level of pollution.

The Limburg company now says interim findings are sufficient to make anyone with a sense of responsibility conclude that the point has been made and that widespread measures are urgently needed.

It refers to a statement by the vice-chairman of the council, Professor Pantke of Giessen University, at the outset of the project.

"If the project succeeds in filtering waste amalgam," he said, "we will definitely encourage members of the profession to take part in the campaign on a large scale."

"When something can be done for the health of the general public doctors and dentists must be at the forefront."

Dieter Fluck
(Frankfurter Neue Presse, 14 January 1983)

Baby seal fur ban

Furriers in the Federal Republic of Germany are no longer to process or sell baby seal fur: neither whitecoats nor bluebacks.

Regulations are to be drawn up to supervise the trade and ensure such protection, it can give to the endangered species culled mainly off the Canadian coast.

The industry is reported by the Bonn Economic Affairs Ministry to be planning to call on member-firms no longer to import and process baby seal fur.

By the end of February it will report to the Ministry on ways and means of ensuring voluntary restraint. Societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals are to be consulted.

According to the industry 80,000 and 97,000 baby seal furs were imported in

1980 and 1981, but they were mainly species that are not endangered.

For years the trade has preferred not to process whitecoat and blueback fur. Their furs are said not to be suitable for coats or larger items of clothing in any case.

The industry says only two firms in the Federal Republic still process whitecoat and blueback furs to order for foreign customers.

Both are now reportedly prepared to stop doing so altogether.

The North Sea about which we know nothing.

(Stuttgarter Nachrichten, 18 January 1983)

Antarctic eco-system

Hempel says, has extended over the past century. Between 1901 and 1903 Erich von Drygalski headed a major Antarctic expedition on board the three-masted schooner *Gauß*. Between 1911 and 1913 Wilhelm Filchner sailed into the Weddell Sea on board the *Deutschland*. He and his crew were holed up in the ice for eight months.

In the event of an emergency there is a survival raft to one side of the base. But there hasn't been one yet, and five men manned the base in its first winter in use.

One of the five, a 28-year-old mechanic, Jürgen Jannek, signed on for a second 300-day term. The other four said they would not voluntarily stay for another winter.

The radio officer, Paul Herbert Hag, felt you never got out of the place. The wind pressed the snow as hard as concrete. It found its way through every nook and cranny, and the weather was, for the most part, bad.

This year seven men are to spend the winter at the base camp. Next year there is to be a complement of 10.

About 1,450km, or 900 miles, south-west of the base camp there are several containers on stilts on an ice floe in the Filchner-Ronne ice shelf.

The containers, including dry rooms and dormitories, a kitchen, laboratories and a sanitation unit, are the German summer camp.

From these logistical bases, to which the *Polarstern* is bound on its maiden voyage, Antarctic research is carried out.

German polar research, Professor

that has been stable for more than 10 million years.

The Antarctic is up for exploration, a museum of trace elements can be old and is a mechanism of the climate.

Yet Frederic Forrest, who plays the

hero, took care to resemble him in appearance. He studied Hammett's habits painstaking detail.

He checked how Hammett, who died in 1961, walked, talked, smoked and drank. To judge by photos he perfectly

resembled his original.

But it amounts to no more than a superficial resemblance to a character. Wenders does not lay claim to more. He refers to research on Hammett's life but says that he had no intention of writing a film biography.

His film is in fact based on a readable by no means brilliant crime fiction by Joe Gores entitled *Dashiel Hammett's Last Case*.

Hammett is a legend, so Wenders did not invent him. The film is in 1928 when he was 34 and unknown, neither a hero nor a myth, just someone who can make ends meet with what he earns from his stories.

So it is primarily a film about the relationship between fact and fiction, a man about a man who sought to sublimate aesthetically his personal experiences as a Pinkerton agent.

It is a film about a man who is forced into reality by a private eye whom he loves & good-bye.

Ryan, the eye, is looking for Crystal, a Chinese girl sold by her parents a few thousand dollars at the age of 12.

He ended up in a San Francisco brothel, undoubtedly one of life's victims.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 14 January 1983)

North Sea oil toll

STUTTGARTER
NACHRICHTEN

Frankfurter Allgemeine

Crude oil pollution is an alarming proportion in the North Sea, with thousands of sea-birds

which Hammett is said to have been hit by an extensive oil slick.

Ornithologists and conservationists have collected truckloads of oil slicks with him. He was tall, had knife wounds in his island of Sylt and Helgoland and had a deep scar on his head. At coast of North Frisia and Sylt, he cultivated a run-down elegance.

He suffered from TB and was an alcoholic, but by and large he was proud of himself. In an obliging way he was good; he certainly didn't like to have to ask for things.

He once said: "If more were at stake than jail, if it were life itself, I would do it for what I mean by democracy, for my convictions, or maybe in hope of his scuse of justice, he

running in size from tennis balls to pumpkins.

Analysis of dead birds has shown that there can be no doubt that Hammett, the detective fiction writer, was a character, an American hero who embodies once more the uncompromising obscurity of the pioniers.

Hammett is also the title of a film by German director Wim Wenders that is remarkably bad.

It did not illustrate Hammett's life very well. It largely avoided the explicitly

it did not even deal in depth with his

million years.

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(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 14 January 1983)

CINEMA

Wenders' Hammett looks at a legend



Frederic Forrest as Dashiell Hammett in Wenders' film

(Photo: Neue Conciante Film)

has a glass roof. Houses have staircases that are all angles.

Many features of the film are typical of the present age. There can be no mistaking the prediction for quotations, the overwhelming presence of cinematic thought and doubtless the aestheticism.

The political aspect, the social criticism that makes up much of the myth of this genre of Hollywood films, remains no more than a mere claim or assertion.

Politics, it is said at one point, is tested out; it is the millionaire who runs the show.

But this comment sounds as much as the inevitable conclusion that crime doesn't pay which film censors insisted on in the 1940s, merely fuelling the fire of gangster legends.

Viewed in this light *Hammett* is the expression of an age that is sold on the pleasure, on outward aspects.

"It is not because I despise women that all my heroes are men," Wenders once said. "I would sooner see this as a kind of respect for women. I can't tell their tales."

The dramatic climax of the film, the moment at which evil rears its ugly head and the seeming innocence of a woman is unmasked as frighteningly

wicked.

He needed one hand for the money and another for the gun," we are told about the dead private eye Ryan at the end, "and he couldn't cope with either."

There is a wealth of decorative shadow, of unusual camera angles that at times verge on mannerism. The library

is a fine ending as they go but Lydia Lel is not a Mary Astor or a Lauren Bacall.

A second German entry will be *Utopia*, directed by Sohrab Shahid Saless, a Persian who lives in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The second US entry will be *Sophie's Choice*, directed by Alan Pakula and starring Meryl Streep and Germany's Katharina Thalbach.

Other entries will include Alain Tanner's *Dans la ville blanche*, from Switzerland, starring Bruno Ganz, *La Colombe* by Mario Camus of Spain, *Ascendancy* by Britain's Edward Bennett, *Hipster* by Ishmael Bernal of the Philippines, and *Khartoum* by Mrinal Sen of India.

There will also be a Chinese entry at Berlin again. The jury will be chaired by French actress and director Jeanne Moreau.

This year's retrospective will be entitled *Exiles: Six Actors from Germany*, and deal with Elisabeth Bergner, Curt Bois, Dolly Haas, Franz (Francis) Lederer, Hertha Thiele and Wolfgang Zilzer (Paul Ander).

The International Young Film Forum is to present, on the 50th anniversary of Hitler's power take-over on 30 January, several still unknown films made by German emigrés.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 12 January 1983)

Berlin film festival

Sydney Pollack's *Tootsie*, starring

Dustin Hoffman, will open the 33rd Berlin Film Festival on 18 February. It is an actors' comedy hailed by US film critics as Film of the Year rather than

E.T.

The German entry will be *Heller Wahn* (German title: *Sheer Madness*), directed by Margarete von Trotta and starring Hanna Schygulla and Angela Winkler.

A second German entry will be *Utopia*, directed by Sohrab Shahid Saless, a Persian who lives in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The second US entry will be *Sophie's Choice*, directed by Alan Pakula and starring Meryl Streep and Germany's Katharina Thalbach.

Other entries will include Alain Tanner's *Dans la ville blanche*, from Switzerland, starring Bruno Ganz, *La Colombe* by Mario Camus of Spain, *Ascendancy* by Britain's Edward Bennett, *Hipster* by Ishmael Bernal of the Philippines, and *Khartoum* by Mrinal Sen of India.

There will also be a Chinese entry at Berlin again. The jury will be chaired by French actress and director Jeanne Moreau.

This year's retrospective will be entitled *Exiles: Six Actors from Germany*, and deal with Elisabeth Bergner, Curt Bois, Dolly Haas, Franz (Francis) Lederer, Hertha Thiele and Wolfgang Zilzer (Paul Ander).

The International Young Film Forum is to present, on the 50th anniversary of Hitler's power take-over on 30 January, several still unknown films made by German emigrés.

(Süddeutsche Zeitung, 12 January 1983)

■ TELEVISION

Sesame Street, now 10, has gone German



test group was not due to the programme but to intensive personal attention. It turned out that it was not Sesame Street that promoted the children's learning but the in-depth chats they had with the field workers making the survey.

Underprivileged children who were not included in the project showed no sustained learning successes.

As one expert put it: "Even the Sesame Street generation of children had to start from scratch once they began their schooling."

Initial successes in America spread to the Federal Republic of Germany, where educationalists were fascinated by the idea of taking education to the remotest corner of the country via the TV screen.

The American idea was adopted for *Norddeutscher Rundfunk*, one of the major national broadcasting systems, by its *Sesamstrasse* project group in 1973.

The project group took over the American combination of Muppet-like creatures and everyday situations combined with a bit of show and information.

The aim was ambitious. The programme was supposed to have helped raise the independent and responsible dream child of educational planners.

So much for the aim. But there was a considerable controversy over how to achieve it, a controversy that has left its

mark on the various development phases of the German version of Sesame Street.

The original American street scene, complete with the people who populated it, was dropped in the early stages because it was considered too exotic.

The little viewers were given an idea of their environment by a blend of animated cartoons and shots of real German street scenes, some borrowed from another, German children's programme.

The German producers contributed about 30 per cent of the programme, the rest being taken over from the American version.

Despite many changes, the original aim of providing information on various situations a child is likely to encounter as possible along with a bit of simple instruction in the three Rs has remained to this day.

But the programme also reflects the changes in educational finds that have occurred during the ten years in existence here in Germany.

Starting from the mid-1970s, more emphasis was put on re-enacting possible social conflicts in a bid to teach children how to cope with them and on removing the stereotype understanding of the specific roles of the sexes, thus imparting emancipatory impulses.

Basic patterns of the series have remained, notwithstanding changes of emphasis. The sketches with Ernsta and Bert, the games with figures and letters and the frequently hectic rhythm of the show with its minimum of eight separate sections in half an hour remain.

With its rapid sequence of scenes, gags and slogans, the programme's origins in advertising are clearly in evidence.

The theme song *Wer, wie, was, wieso, weshalb, warum; wer nicht fragt, bleibt dumm*, ("Who, how, what, why... if you don't ask you'll stay stupid") is catchy, but performs no miracles.

One of the main conclusions arrived at by an extensive review made by the Hane Bredow Institute in 1975 was that the series barely improved the children's social attitudes though some children were made to perform better intellectually.

Children with fairly tolerant, loving mothers who talked a lot with them topped the performance score. But children growing up under such favourable conditions hardly need a TV programme that its makers regard as an opportunity to achieve equal opportunity.

What accounts for these relatively poor results, considering the time and

Was ereignet sich in Deutschland? Wie sieht Deutschland die Welt?

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